

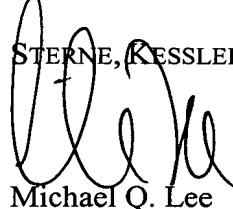
Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 41-77 are pending in the application, with 41, 73 and 77 being the independent claims. Claims 1-3, 6-9, 13-37 and 39 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. New claims 41-77 are sought to be added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,


STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Michael Q. Lee
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 35,239

Date: June 9, 2003

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600